

OCT 26 2004

Dr. C. W. Jameson  
National Toxicology Program – Report on Carcinogens  
79 Alexander Drive  
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

21 October 2004

Dear Dr. Jameson:

I am writing at the request of the Asphalt Roofing Environmental Council (AREC) and the Asphalt Paving Environmental Council (APEC) to inform you of two projects we are conducting related to occupational asphalt exposures. The first project, funded by AREC, involves an assessment of the epidemiological literature of occupational exposures to asphalt in the roofing industry, with special attention to the extent to which the reported associations in these studies may be due to confounding factors such as asbestos, cigarette smoking, or coal tar. This was started December 1, 2003, and is expected to be completed in early 2005.

The second project, funded by APEC, will ascertain whether historical information is available on additives and modifiers used over the past 50 years that may be considered at some future point as possible co-exposures. This information will then be used in interviews with individuals at US asphalt refineries to determine to what extent these materials were actually used, and over what time frame. This project was started in June 2004, and is to be conducted in two phases. The first phase is essentially a feasibility study, to be completed in mid-November. If proven feasible, the project will be extended to include a more comprehensive assessment of refineries through interviews and visits, with a final report available mid-2005.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require addition information on either of these projects.

Sincerely,



Diane J. Mundt, Ph.D.  
Senior Science Manager  
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cc: Mr. Russell K. Snyder  
Mr. Peter Grass  
Dr. Earl Arp